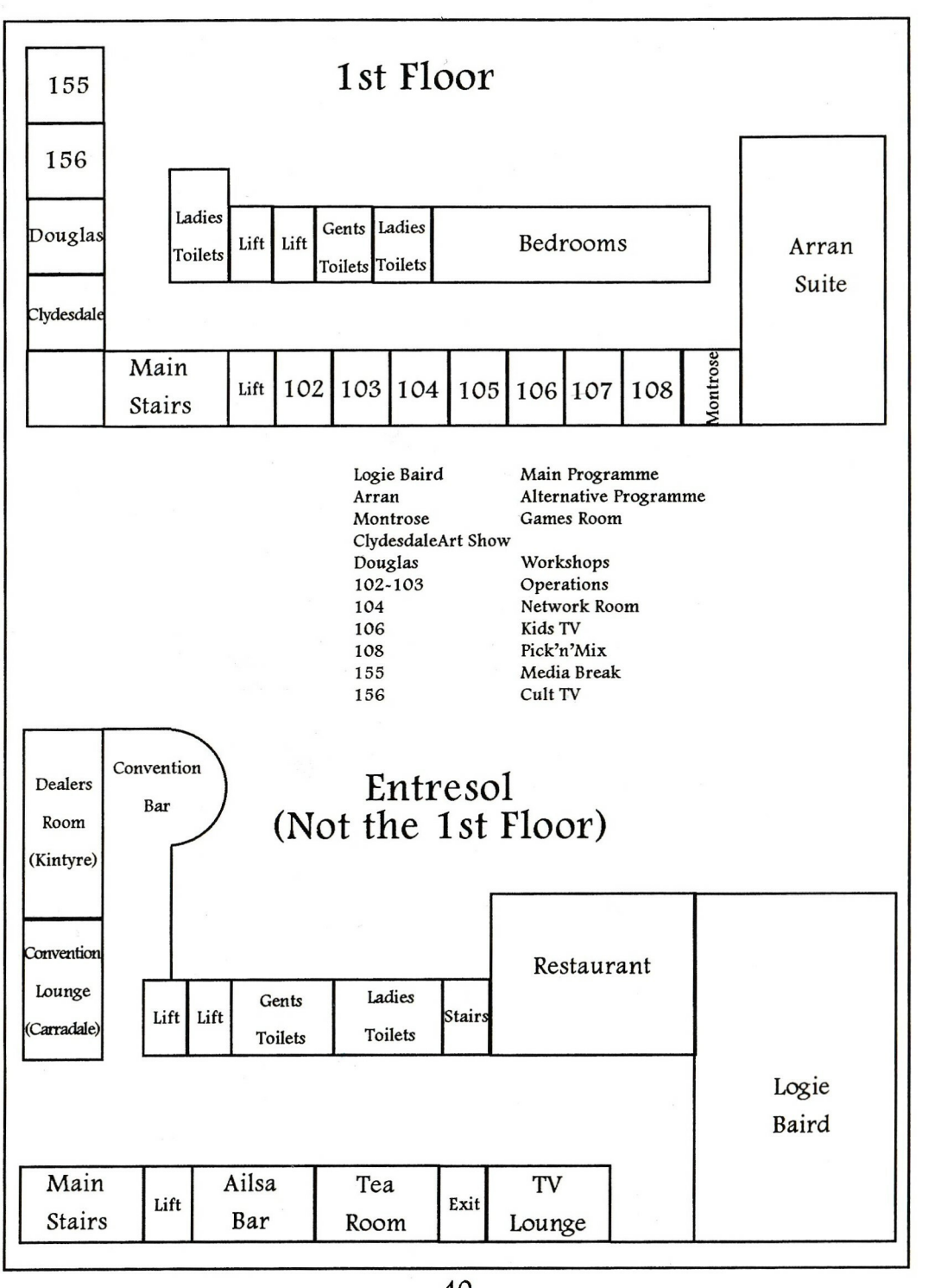
ALBACON™, IN ASSOCIATION WITH **PSYCHO CHICKEN** PRODUCTIONS PROUDLY PRESENTS

" ALBACON 96 - THE THIRD AGE OF FANKIND "

STARRING **RABBIE THE ROBOT** AND **ZIPPO T. DRAGON** WITH
SPECIAL GUEST STARS **DAVID 'TRIBBLES' GERROLD, TERRY 'SMALL GOD' PRATCHETT** AND **DAVID A.'SPACEMAN' HARDY** AS THE ARTIST.
PRODUCED BY **A CAST OF THOUSANDS** (AT LEAST A DOZEN) AND DIRECTED BY **MICHELLE 'CUDDLES' DRAYTON-HARROLD**
PRESENTED IN **CINEMASCOPE** AND IN GLORIOUS **TECHNICOLOR** WITH **MOLDY SURROUND** WHERE AVAILABLE.
SHOWING AT SELECTED THEATERS DURING JULY 1996 - NO ANORAK REQUIRED.


1st Floor
155
156
Douglas
Clydesdale
Ladies Toilets
Lift
Lift
Gents Toilets
Ladies Toilets
Bedrooms
Arran Suite
Main Stairs
Lift
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
Montrose
Logie Baird
Arran
Montrose
ClydesdaleArt Show
Douglas
102-103
104
106
108
155
156
Main Programme
Alternative Programme
Games Room
Workshops
Operations
Network Room
Kids TV
Pick'n'Mix
Media Break
Cult TV
Entresol
(Not the 1st Floor)
Dealers Room (Kintyre)
Convention Bar
Convention Lounge (Carradale)
Lift
Lift
Gents Toilets
Ladies Toilets
Stairs
Restaurant
Logie Baird
Main Stairs
Lift
Ailsa Bar
Tea Room
Exit
TV Lounge

RAGNAROK

260 CLYDE ST (Across from Suspension Bridge)

SPECIAL ONLY FOR ALBACON

26-29 JULY, UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS

DRINK PROMO'S

BUDWEISER, MILLER, BECKS	(BOTTLES)	£1.10
BUDWEISER, MILLER	(PINTS)	£1.50
SPIRITS, INCLUDING MIXER		£1.50

OTHER PROMOS: ASK ON THE NIGHT

FREE ENTRY TO THE BOILER-ROOM (ROCK/INDIE NIGHTCLUB)

11.30pm TO 3.30pm

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

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TUESDAY NIGHT: ROLEPLAYING
THURSDAY NIGHT: THE CRYPT *(EXTREME METAL)*

WHERE TO FIND US

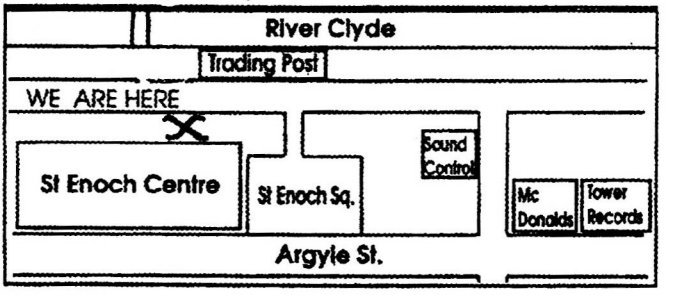
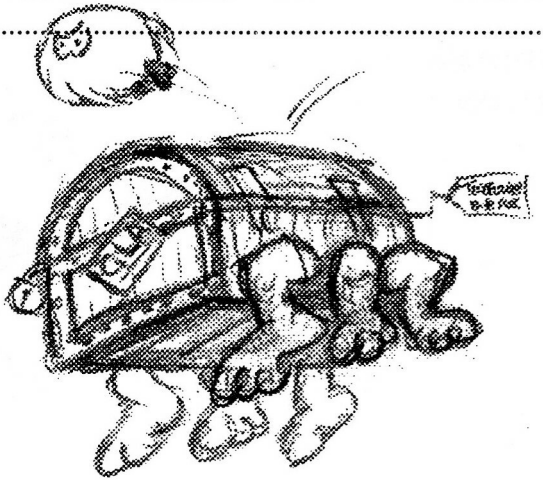


TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME TO ALBACON 96, ... 4
SCOTLAND'S PREMIER SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY CONVENTION. 4
PORTFOLIO OF A CONVENTION COMMITTEE 5
DAVID GERROLD 6
DAVID GERROLD'S BIBLIOGRAPHY 9
TERRY PRATCHETT 11
TERRY'S BIBLIOGRAPHY 14
DAVID A. HARDY 16
.ALBACON'S CHARITY WORK 18
PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS 19
ALBACON 96 AT THE MOVIES 24
CONVENTION BARS & LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS 27
BREAKFAST & SNACK MEALS 27
THE CONVENTION ART SHOW 28
THE ART & BOOK AUCTION 30
DEALERS ROOM 31
SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE CONVENTION 32
WEAPONS POLICY 33
DISABLED ACCESS SERVICE 34
TAKING THE MASK OFF COSTUMING 35
THE GALACTIC SAUCERY 36
IN REMEMBRANCE OF AN OLD FRIEND 37
AND FINALLY... 38



WELCOME TO ALBACON 96, SCOTLAND'S PREMIER SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY CONVENTION.

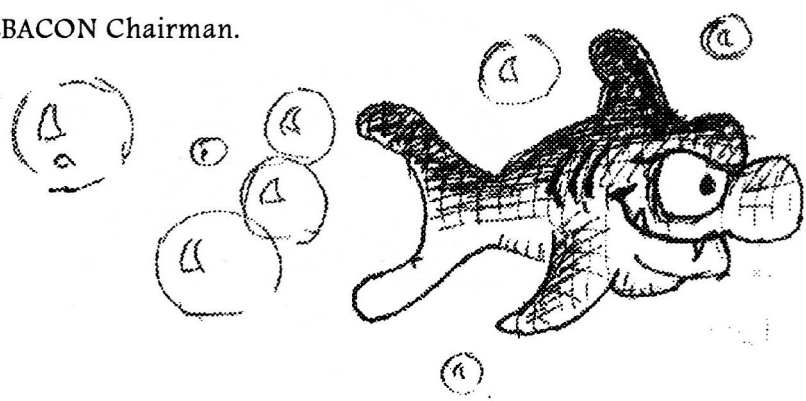
Only a few months ago, the event was facing cancellation, principally due to insufficient advance memberships, which seems to be a problem shared by many conventions this year. The situation was further compounded by Harlan Ellison's sudden illness in April which resulted in his appearance being cancelled! Your convention chairman spent several days frantically phoning around for a replacement guest, which was not an easy task considering the short notice involved!

ALBACON 96 is delighted to have David Gerrold, Terry Pratchett and David Hardy as the Guests of Honour. Although Terry & Dave Hardy are not strangers to Scottish events, they are making their first appearance, as is David Gerrold, as principal guests at a Scottish convention. I am sure everyone attending the convention will enjoy their company and make them feel very welcome.

So here we all are, back in the Central Hotel for a wild weekend: four days of madness & mayhem, good clean fun and all the other stuff that normally goes on at an SF con! If this is your first convention, I hope that you have a wonderful time.

Enjoy!

CUDDLES
ALBACON Chairman.



PORTFOLIO OF A CONVENTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN - She Who Must Be Obeyed!

Cuddles is the boss and the main force behind the committee & ALBACON in general. She loves bats (and her husband!), and has rediscovered chocolate after several years of abstinence. Her favourite drinks are Miller, Southern Comfort and Peach Schnapps.

TREASURER - he keeps all the pocket money.

Mr. Cuddles (The Blonde Bimbo) is the pessimist of the committee and will only be happy if he either wins the lottery or over 1000 people attend ALBACON. This will be his last convention as a conrunner. He is a vegetarian but will sometimes eat lamb, drinks Jack Daniels or Gleyva and loves boots & gloves!

ART SHOW CO-ORDINATOR - he knows talent when he sees it!

Jason Cumming looks like Jesus and is often confused as such by short-sighted Evangelists. He is recovering from a nasty bout of meningitis thanks to the medicinal qualities of Newcastle Brown Ale.

DEALER'S ROOM CO-ORDINATOR - he knows a bargain when he sees it!

Jim Campbell has two distinctive features: his shock of white hair and his youthful fan club members. He *has* snogged Sparks' girlfriend (now wife) and can walk down a complete flight of stairs in a single bound without falling over - unless he's sober.

SECURITY CHIEF & DEPUTY- they'll bounce you if you screw up!

Gordon Nimmo is new to this con security game but not to the job at hand. He has a pub on the Clydeside called Ragnarok and is also a recent newly-wed! Ian Cairns

is his second in command and an old hand at this line of work. He eats junk food, smokes Marlboro and is currently single.

GOPHER CONTROL - he who gets to pass the buck a lot!

Elf is newly promoted to this job, having gained years of experience at other cons including ALBACON 94! He can't wear normal Psi Corps gloves and should never be allowed to drink more than 1 pint of cider per day.

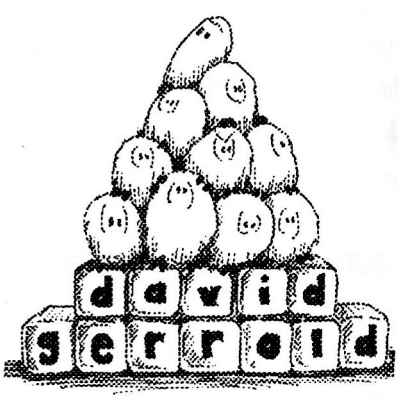
TECH OPS - he who thinks he can wire a plug!

Sparks only got married last week and cancelled his honeymoon to Jamaica (Street) just to be at ALBACON 96. He is an aspiring Ak'tor and his most famous roles have been as: Jim Campbell in THE FANCY DRESS PARTY, Gumbo in I.D. and Mike Rennie in DISCWORLDCON.

DAVID GERROLD

David Gerrold is notorious as the man who invented the cottage cheese burrito, the most heinous crime against dieters since the invention of the melba toast!

When not engaged in nefarious culinary pursuits, Gerrold writes novels and the occasional script for television. He has published over thirty books, and written far too many televisions scripts. The six-book trilogy entitled, ***THE WAR AGAINST CHTORR***, is the most ambitious of his works and the first three books established the series as a major work in the science fiction cannon.



His SF television credits include: Star Trek, Tales from the Darkside, Logan's Run, The Real Ghostbusters and more recently, Babylon 5

although not all his involvement has been strictly as a script writer.

Gerrold also teaches screenwriting a Pepperdine University (aka Malibu High), and his students call him "the teacher from the Black Lagoon." As well as writing articles and columns for magazines, including ***STARLOG***, his most recent tenure has been as a contributing editor for ***PC-TECHNIQUES***, a publication catering exclusively to obsessive-compulsive computer programmers!

I knew the name of David Gerrold long before I knew the man, primarily for his

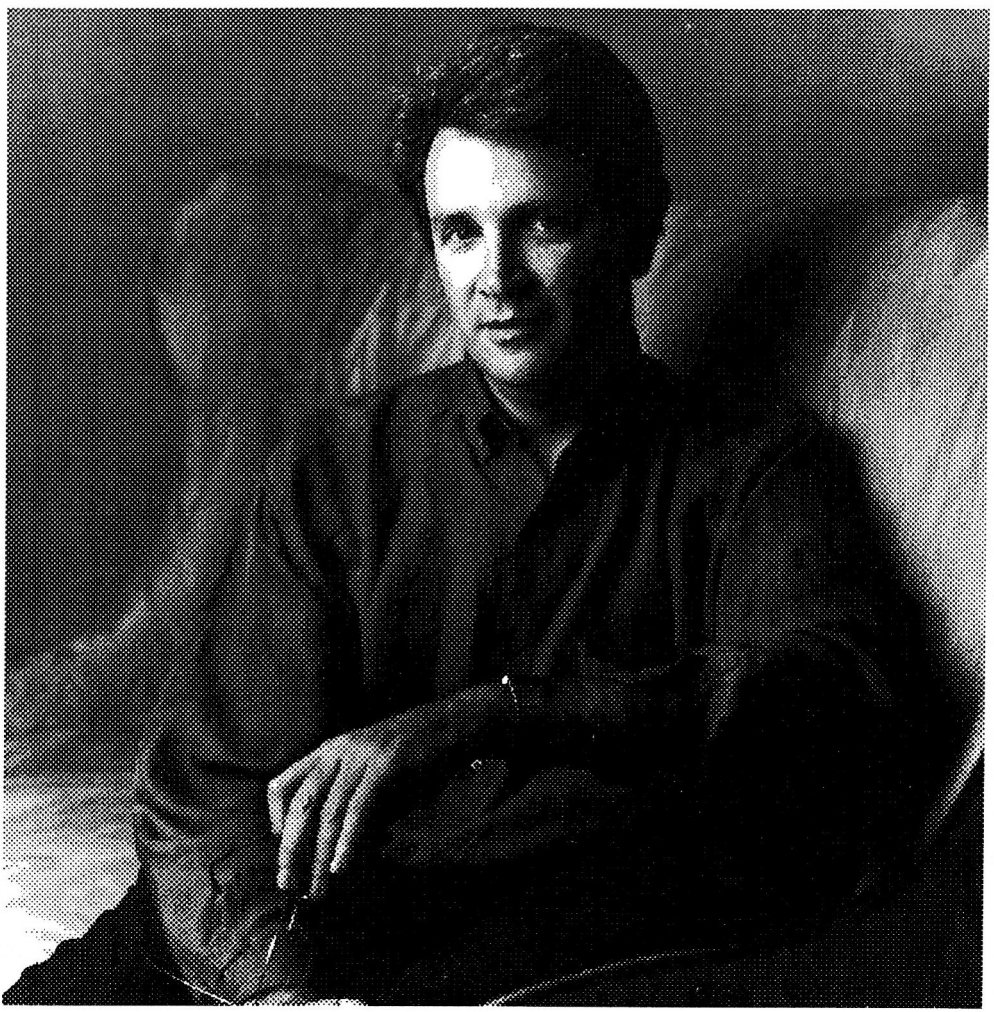


Photo Credit: M.C. VALADA 1989

legendary contribution to Star Trek: he was the student who wrote the most popular episode while studying for his degree, becoming the youngest member of the Screenwriters Guild of America. [He has also contributed to other episodes of the series and written about his experiences of the Trek phenomena in a number of books including THE TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES (1973), which gives a detailed insight to the conception & development of one of the show's most endearing beasties!]

And then one day I picked up a copy of ' When Harlie Was One', simply because I knew the name from Star Trek, and before I'd finished page one I felt that thrill you get when you know you've just discovered someone who is going to be a favourite author. I couldn't wait to find his other books and after I'd met him, I pestered the poor man for preview copies and computer printouts because I couldn't wait for them to hit the book shops. Once, I even cornered him in his hotel room and he very generously allowed me to read the draft version of a new book on his portable. (Of course, I always bought a copy later!) I was just so delighted to find a writer whose books were consistently imaginative, intelligent and exciting. My favourite? Well, 'When Harlie Was One' because it was the first one I found, although the re-write, Version 2, is even better; the War with Chtorr series; the Starwolf books; and I couldn't leave out 'The Man Who Folded Himself' and ...

Actually, they're all favourites for one reason or another so when I needed a guest for a Star Trek convention I was running in 1984, David Gerrold was a natural choice. A few months later, he wrote about his impressions of his first visit to a British convention in his regular column in STARLOG magazine, describing it as 'like being at the worlds best party'. He was so bowled over by his reception that he more or less invited the entire convention to a room party which didn't break up until the next morning! (There is no truth in the rumour that it took that long for David to reach the punch-line of his first joke!) We were equally bowled over by him. David took his responsibilities as a convention guest as seriously as he takes his writing: when Rog Peyton (Andromeda Books) took him to a local pub and made him late, David was *mortified*. He was never late again in the 10 years he attended our cons. UFP Con never ran without David Gerrold as a special guest. I used to

complain we couldn't get rid of him; he used to retort it was my own fault for sending him the plane tickets. But the truth is, we couldn't imagine a con without him.

And David the man? I think the single word I would use to describe him is passionate. He is passionate about his writing. He is passionate about the causes dear to his heart - AIDS, hunger, the environment - and now, he is committed to bringing up his son the best way he knows how. I don't see him or talk to him very often, but we have one of those friendships where we can pick up after two years as easily as others pick up after two days. I'm very glad I can call David my friend. As a person, as a writer, as a convention guest: David is special.

I know you'll enjoy his company.

KIM KNIGHT

[*Kim was one of the principle organisers for UFP conventions and as well as an ardent fan, and friend of David's, she remains an avid Trek fan. Kim was recommended to contribute to the programme book by Susie Millar, who is David Gerrold's agent. ALBACON 96 is grateful to Kim for her small part in this book!*]

DAVID GERROLD'S BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE FLYING SORCERERS (with Larry Niven)	Ballantine Books 1971
GENERATION	Anthology, Dell Publishing 1971
WHEN HARLIE WAS ONE	Ballantine Books & SF Book Club 1972 Hugo & Nebula Nominee
WITH A FINGER IN MY EYE	Short Story collection, Ballantine Books 1972 Includes Nebula Award Nominee "In the Deadlands."
SPACE SKIMMER	Ballantine Books 1972

YESTERDAY'S CHILDREN	Dell Publishing 1972
PROTOSTARS	Anthology, Ballantine Books 1972
The WORLD OF STAR TREK	Ballantine Books 1973, BlueJay Books 1984
The TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES	Ballantine Books 1973 Details the production of the classic ST episode
THE MAN WHO FOLDED HIMSELF	Random House & SF Book Club 1973 Hugo & Nebula Award Nominee
BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES	Movie Novelisation, Award Books 1973 (Somebody had to do it!)
EMPHASIS	Anthology, Ballantine Books 1974
ALTERNATIES	Anthology, Dell Publishing 1976
ASCENTS OF WONDER	Anthology, Popular Library 1977
MOONSTAR ODYSSEY	Signet 1977 Nebula Award Nominee
THE GALACTIC WHIRLPOOL	ST Novel, Bantam Books 1977
DEATHBEAST	Popular Library 1978
STARHUNT	Popular Library 1978 Uncut version of "Yesterday's Children."
A MATTER FOR MEN Book One: The War Against Chtorr	Pocket Books 1984, uncut Bantam Books edition 1989
A DAY FOR DAMNATION Book Two: The War Against Chtorr	Pocket Books 1985, uncut Bantam Books edition 1989
ENEMY MINE	Movie Novelisation, Berkeley 1985

CHESS WITH A DRAGON	Illustrated Novel, Walker Press 1987; Avon Publishing 1988
WHEN HARLIE WAS ONE	Bantam Spectra 1988 (Release 2.0)
A RAGE FOR REVENGE	Bantam Spectra 1989
Book Three: The War Against Chtorr	
THE VOYAGE OF THE STAR WOLF	Bantam Spectra 1990
Book One: Tales of the Star Wolf	

TERRY PRATCHETT

Terry Pratchett is one of the UK's best selling authors, inside or outside of the fantasy field. Since 1988 he has had twenty books in the main best sellers list, seven of them reaching Number 1, and his titles regularly feature in the Top 100 sellers for the year; he has several times been described as "the best English humorist since P G Wodehouse." A recent survey suggested he sells 1% of *all* the fiction sold in the UK.

He was born in Bucks, England in 1948, and had what he describes as: "an idyllic childhood, except for school, which I hated. But it was entirely the wrong childhood for an author. No-one beat me up or forced me to go to church and my parents got along fine with one another, so I had to start out as a writer without all those hang-ups you're supposed to have and had to invent them for myself."

He began his writing career at the age of 13, earning enough with his first short story to buy himself a typewriter; his first novel for children, **The Carpet People** was published when he was 20

(copies now exchange hands for up to £250 – it has been estimated that a UK first edition copy of **The Light Fantastic**, the second Discworld book, would fetch £750 if it ever came on the market).

He worked full-time as a provincial journalist until getting a job as Press Officer for the Central Electricity Generating Board, which until recently was the main electricity company for England and Wales. He began writing the Discworld series of humourous fantasy books as light relief from looking after the local PR interests of four nuclear power stations.

They were immediately successful, and he was able to leave the warm glow of nuclear public relations in 1987 when his fourth Discworld book, **Mort**, surprised everyone but especially him by suddenly climbing up the best seller lists.

The **Truckers** trilogy for children, begun in 1989, was equally successful. The three books - **Truckers, Diggers** and **Wings** - attracted so many adult readers that they all made it into the main top ten, besides occupying the top three places in the Young Adult top ten. A more recent YA title - **Johnny and the Dead** - has been a children's best seller in the UK for two years and won the Writer's Guild Children's Book of the year Award (but has not been published in the US because it is, in the words of one publisher, 'too difficult for American children'.)

Terry lives in Wiltshire with his wife Lynn and 19-year-old daughter Rhianna - and hardly ever gives out further biographical details, except when it comes to choice of alcoholic drink.

[Terry's Guest of Honour Speech will take place on Saturday at 2pm. If you would like your book signed, please check the notice boards for scheduled signing sessions. To avoid long queues, fans are requested to ask for no more than 3 items to be signed.]

PRESS RELEASE

SCIENCE FICTION WRITING COURSE AT THE ARVON FOUNDATION

Spend 5 days with two professional science fiction and fantasy writers in a beautiful Devonian manor house. Individual tuition, group discussions and workshops enable writers to get feedback and constructive criticism on long term projects and also have the opportunity to develop new ideas throughout the week.

August 26th - 31st 1996.
Tutors: Colin Greenland & Gwyneth Jones.

Through a series of creative workshops and tutorials this course will explore the secrets of successful science fiction and fantasy writing. The tutors are looking forward to offering practical advice on ideas covering every shade of the unreal from ghost stories to space opera.
Colin Greenland writes horror stories and science fiction novels, the most recent being **Seasons of Plenty**, sequel to the triple award winner **Take Back Plenty**. **Gwyneth Jones** writes award-winning science fiction for adults and fantasy novels for older children. Her latest publications include **North Wind**, **Flowerdust** and (as Ann Halam) **The Haunting of Jessica Raven**. Guest: **Terri Windling.**

Students make their own breakfast and lunch and the cooking of the evening meal is shared. There are two single rooms which are reserved for people with particular needs.
The course fee, which includes all food, tuition and accommodation, is **£275**. Bursaries are also available.
If you are interested in taking this course please contact **The Arvon Foundation** at **Totleigh Barton, Sheepwash, Devon EX21 5NS.**
Telephone: 01409 231 338 Fax: 01409 231 144.

THE CARPET PEOPLE - London: Colin Smythe 1971, Corgi 1992

THE DARK SIDE OF THE SUN - London: Colin Smythe 1976, New York: St. Martin's Press 1976, New English Library 1978, Corgi 1988

STRATA - London: Colin Smythe 1981, New York: St. Martin's Press 1981, New English Library 1982, Corgi 1988

THE COLOUR OF MAGIC - London: Colin Smythe 1983, New York: St. Martin's Press 1983, Corgi 1985, Signet 1985.
Four part comic adaptation by Scott Rockwell (art by Steven Ross) is being published by Innovation Corporation.

THE LIGHT FANTASTIC - London: Colin Smythe 1986, Corgi 1986, New York: Signet 1988

EQUAL RITES - London: Gollancz 1987, Corgi 1988, New York: Signet 1988

MORT - London: Gollancz 1987, Corgi 1988, New York: Signet 1989

SOURCERY - London: Gollancz 1988, Corgi 1989, New York: Signet 1989

WYRD SISTERS - London: Gollancz 1988, Corgi 1989, New York: Roc 1990

PYRAMIDS - London: Gollancz 1989, Corgi 1990, New York: Roc 1990

TRUCKERS - London: Doubleday 1989 (p/b 1990), New York: Delacorte 1990

GUARDS! GUARDS! - London: Gollancz 1989, Corgi 1990, New York: Roc 1991

THE UNADULTERATED CAT (with Gray Jolliffe) - London: Gollancz 1989

ERIC - London: Gollancz 1989 - illustrated large format, VGSF 1991 - trade paperback

GOOD OMENS: The NICE and ACCURATE PROPHECIES of AGNES NUTTER (with Neil Gaiman) - London: Gollancz 1990, New York: Workman 1990 Corgi 1991

MOVING PICTURES - London: Gollancz 1990, Corgi 1991, New York: Roc 1991

DIGGERS - London: Doubleday 1990 (p/b 1991), New York: Delacorte 1991

WINGS - London: Doubleday 1990 (p/b 1991)

REAPER MAN - London: Gollancz 1991, Corgi 1992, New York: Roc 1992

WITCHES ABROAD - London: Gollancz 1991, Corgi 1992

SMALL GODS - London: Gollancz 1992, Corgi 1993.

ONLY YOU CAN SAVE MANKIND - London: Doubleday h/b 1992 p/b 1993

LORDS AND LADIES - London: Gollancz 1992, Corgi 1993

JOHNNY AND THE DEAD - London: Doubleday h/b 1993 p/b 1994

MEN AT ARMS - London: Gollancz 1993, Corgi 1994

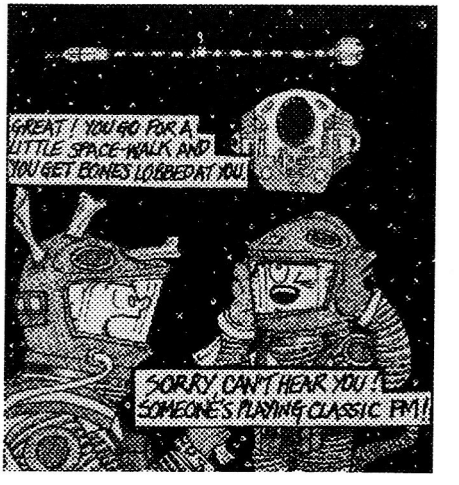
INTERESTING TIMES - London: Gollancz 1994, Corgi 1995

MASKERADE - London: Gollancz 1995

JOHNNY AND THE BOMB - London: Doubleday 1996

FEET OF CLAY - London: Doubleday 1996

"The cessation of noting the US editions in the early '90s was caused by sheer depression at the erratic order in which they were being published!" *said Terry*



DAVID A. HARDY

From his schooldays, David Hardy's interest was divided between Art and Science He worked in a laboratory, then in 1954, at the age of 18, illustrated his first book for Patrick Moore. After National Service in the RAF he spent nine years in Cadbury's Design Office, near his home in Bournville, where he obtained a thorough grounding in commercial art. He continued to illustrate books and magazines, produced book-jackets, graphics for TV, films for London stage productions, etc., until in 1965 he went freelance. Up to the time when Man first walked on the Moon (and fiction became fact) Hardy's work was almost entirely factual. Today he is well-known internationally both for fact and fiction.

From 1970 his work began to appear first on the US Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction and then on British paperbacks and hardcovers. His covers have appeared on all classic US magazines; Galaxy, If, Amazing as well as F&SF (for which he has now done over 40 covers - more than any US artist), and many of his covers for Analog since 1981 have appeared in the top three of its annual Readers' Poll - sometimes at 1st and 2nd. In 1979 David was nominated for a Hugo - SF's equivalent to an Oscar - and in 1984 he was voted 'Best European SF Graphic Artist', while in 1990 his work was nominated for the British Science Fiction Association Award and the US 'Lensman' Award. He is European Vice-President of the International Association for Astronomical Arts (IAAA), and has travelled to Iceland, Hawaii and the US Southwest, sketching analogues of planetary geology with US and Soviet artists.

The first Hardy exhibition was held at the London Planetarium in 1968, and led to the publication of his first art print, STELLAR RAIDANCE - a planet of a red supergiant star - reached No. 6 in the Top Ten Prints list of 1970. He has done many 360°

panoramas for both London and Stuttgart Planetarium, where a major exhibition was held in 1980; other exhibitions have been held In the UK, USA, Germany, France and Holland, including Space '86 in Utrecht. In 1982, he worked in Munich on production art for the film THE NEVERENDING STORY, and has since done other film work. He is the only British artist to have work included on a CD-ROM which travelled on the Mars '94 space probe.

CHALLENGE OF THE STARS (1972), the major Hardy/Moore collaboration, was checked and commended by NASA, and revised for reprint in 1978. David began his own writing career in 1974: the most important one of note is **ATLAS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM** (1982) which was updated and reprinted in 1986. Dragon's World published **VISIONS OF SPACE** (1974), which was written, compiled and designed by Hardy, in which he collected the work of over 70 international space artists in a 176-page, full colour hard cover book (soft cover 1990), now accepted as the definitive work on the subject.

He produced all the illustrations for his book **THE FIRES WITHIN: VOLCANOES ON EARTH AND OTHER PLANETS,** with text provided by Dr. John Murray (1991). Also in 1989 the prestigious US-based magazine Step-by-Step Graphics featured his work and techniques.

David is also an experienced photographer and has recently turned his hand to computer graphics and he uses an Apple Power PC. The move to this format has not diminished his work and he admits that the advantage to using computer graphics is the scope of techniques at your disposal. However, as he recently stated in an article published by *ARTISTS & ILLUSTRATORS* (Issue 118), there are disadvantages: "You can do all this stuff on your own screen at home, but you still have to get it into some kind of visual form that you can show to people outside - say in the pub."

.ALBACON'S CHARITY WORK

ALBACON has always supported the RNIB Talking Books Service by donating profits to sponsor SF & Fantasy titles for their expanding library. It costs £500 to sponsor a book and following ALBACON 94, £1000 was presented to the RNIB towards two new books. The titles selected were:

The Oxford Book of Science Fiction Stories, edited by Tom Shippey and,

Orpheus: Myths of the World, edited by Padraic Colum.

The former was dedicated to Glasgow fan Ann McDonald, who died shortly before the 1994 convention. Both the book used for the production and the RNIB certificate were presented to her brother, Bruce McDonald, who currently lives in Ayr and has always been a supporter of Glasgow conventions.

Orpheus is a beautifully illustrated book containing a diverse range of world myths. The book and the RNIB certificate will be auctioned on Sunday.

Also in 1994, £1000 was donated to the Children's Hospice Appeal Scotland. This campaign has successfully reached its goal: to build a purpose built facility to cater for terminally ill children and their families. Rachel House opened its doors earlier this year. It is situated on the banks of Loch Leven in Kinross and has a range of facilities for the comfort and pleasure of the children. There are family rooms so that parents can remain close to the children and each of the eight rooms open out onto landscaped gardens. The most impressive feature of the hospice is the "snoezzlen" room which boasts a water bed floor with moving lights, bubble tubes and soft music.

ALBACON is delighted it could contribute in some way to improving the quality of life for these children and their family and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended in 1994, for their support.

BLADE RUNNER: CARRY ON REPLICATING (Sunday 9.30pm)
Following the success of DUNE: THE SANDS OF MUSIC at Worldcon last year, those fanac thespians present a hilarious spoof of Ridley Scott's BLADERUNNER. This will make you laugh, cry and groan! Highly recommended. Performed by Iain Sorensen, Phil Raines and Jackie McRobert.

BRAVE NEW WORLDS (Friday 6.30pm)
The panel of professional writers discuss the construction of the worlds of their novels from the basic geography to the complex racial backgrounds. [Terry Pratchett, Debbie Turner Harris, Pete Morwood and Maggie Furey.]

CALL MY BLUFF (Saturday 8.30pm)
Iain Sorensen hosts this SF version of the popular TV work game.

CHILDREN OF THE SKY (Monday 11am)
Duncan Lunan outlines his new novel, which is due to be published next year.

THE CONVENTION CEILIDH (Saturday 9pm)
ALBACON 96 is delighted to have the band which got Maggie Furey dancing with a Dalek last year! **Steep the Feet** play excellent music and will guide the novice through the correct movements of each dance. Drink lots of lucozade or have a hearty meal before hand as you will need the energy!

COMICS: ART OR LITERATURE (Monday 2.30pm)
John McShane hosts this panel to discuss whether modern comics & graphic novels are works of art or are they the future format for SF literature. Robbie Morrison, Gary Erskine and Frank Quitley illustrate their arguments with examples of their own work.

COMMITTEE WARM UP! (Friday 4pm)
The friendly faces of your convention committee smile warmly as they make their formal welcome to all and sundry.

COMMITTEE WIND DOWN (Monday 4.30pm)
The frazzled faces of your convention committee attempt verbal communication as they formally close the convention and say thanks to all and sundry.

THE FUTURE OF HUMAN & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (Friday 6.30pm)
Duncan Lunan hosts a panel discussing technological progress and how it will influence mankind for the next millennium. [Archie Roy, David Gerrold, Steve Bullock.]

THE GALACTIC SAUCERY - The ALBACON 96 Lottery (Saturday 8pm)
Peter Morwood is your host for the first ALBACON Lottery. Will you be the lucky winner tonight? Perhaps Psychic Senga will have the answer. Silly rating: 10!

GENRE SCRIPT WRITING (Sunday 6.30pm)
Professional writers discuss the trials & tribulations of writing scripts for genre television, film and computer games. [Diane Duane, David Gerrold]

GUEST OF HONOUR SPEECHES
Terry Pratchett speaks! And you thought he was just a writer! Hah!
(Saturday 2pm)
David Gerrold talks about the tribble-ations of being a TV writer.
(Sunday 1pm)
David A. Hardy presents an illustrated talk about his work and space art.
(Sunday 4.30pm)

JUKE BOX JURY (Friday 7.30pm)
Mike Cobley hosts a panel similar to the popular TV show. Panellists will listen to, and discuss, the merits or failure of SF related rock & pop music.

KIDS TV (Monday 11am)
To rouse the bleary eyed with a selection of some classic TV shows

MAGIC and MYSTERY THROUGH THE AGES (Sunday 7.30pm)
A fascinating, light-hearted survey of conjuring from the time of King Cheops and the ancient temple mysteries to present day, embracing the period of the alchemist and mountebanks of the middle Ages, the influence of witchcraft, the performers at Bartholomew & Southwark fairs, the impact of science and the gradual evolution of the streamlined entertainment of the television era. An illustrated talk followed by a short magical presentation.

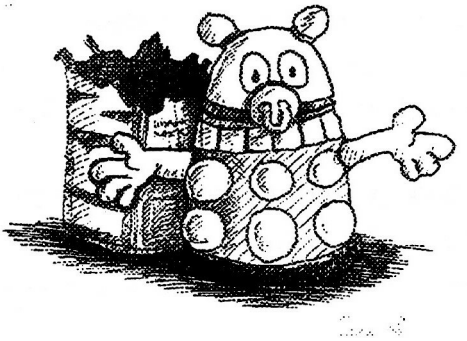
MASQUERADE COMPETITION (Saturday 6.30pm)
Cuddles is the M.C. for one of the principle highlights of ALBACON's. Competitors of varied experience present their costumes to the convention and a panel of judges.

THE SCOTTISH X-FILES (Monday 1pm)
Ron Halliday presents a video illustrated talk on UFO sighting and other weird happenings in Scotland, which will be followed by a screening of THE X FILES - Abduction.

SECRET LIVES (Sunday 5.30pm)
Panellist discuss SF & Fantasy characters and were they ever possibly gay 'between the lines1? From Dr. Jekyll to Doctor Who, Jerry Cornelius to Starship Troopers.. [Robert Watt, Paul Cockburn]

SEEING IS BELIEVING! (Sunday 2.30pm)
Mike Cobley presents examples from selected genre publications to study and discuss the best & worst written SF.

SON OF HYPOTHETICON 15 to 1 CREAM PIE QUIZ (Saturday 3.30pm)
Representatives of next year's convention in Glasgow present a familiar quiz show with one difference. Get your answer wrong and you'll be creamed! Messy but fun. Silly Rating: 5



SPACE POLITICS (Friday 1.30pm)
Andy Nimmo hosts a panel discussing Britain's role in space. [Duncan Lunan, Bill Ramsay, Julian Smith, Archie Roy, Dave Allen.]

TAKE HARDY (Friday 5.30pm)
Artist guest Dave Hardy demonstrates how to paint a space portrait, Rolf Harris style (minus the vocal sound effects and maniacal giggles!) The finished item will be displayed in the convention Art Show until the auction on Sunday afternoon.

2000 A.D. QUIZ (Sunday 3.30pm)
Wilson Logan hosts this competitive quiz, with questions about all aspects of the popular comic magazine.

WAVERIDER UPDATE (Sunday 12pm)
Gordon Ross outlines the progress of the Waverider Project and its possible application as a rescue vehicle for shuttle or space station emergencies.

WHY DID THEY DO THAT? (Monday 1pm)
Not to be confused with Why Don't You..... ? This is your chance to tell the committee and/or the hotel what you thought of the convention and any problems to avoid, or suggestions for the next ALBACON!

ALBACON 96 AT THE MOVIES

APOLLO 13 (Saturday 3.30pm)
Superb Oscar winning drama starring Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton and Kevin Bacon. Excellent supporting roles from Gary Sinise and Ed Harris.

CAST A DEADLY SPELL/WITCH HUNT (Friday 11pm)
Unusual double bill. Raymond Chandler meets Cthulhu starring Fred Ward, David Warner and some big, nasty beasties

DANGER DIABOLIK (Saturday 11pm)
1968 Italian movie about the escapades of an infernally clever thief who continually thwarts the law. Highly recommended by two committee members, who kept going on about it so we decided to put it into the programme. Anything for some peace & quiet!

FANTASTIC PLANET (Saturday 10am)
Animated feature film about the battle & reconciliation between the gigantic Draags and a tiny race of creatures.

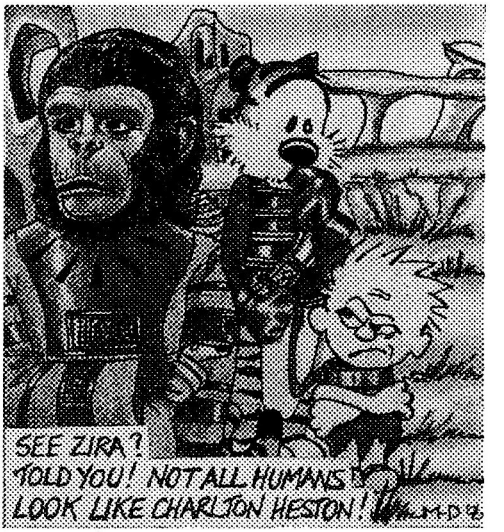
HACKERS (Sunday 5.30pm)
Techno-yoof movie about some teen hackers who are framed for an elaborate virus threatening a huge tanker company. Good music and some promising new talent.

OUR MAN FLINT (Sunday 7.30pm)
James Coburn plays the suave super spy in this wonderful spoof, with the usual gadgets and glamorous women! Silly Rating: 3 Don't miss it!

The PUPPET MASTERS (Saturday 12.30am)
Based on Heinlein's novel, this is a rather good little movie. Paranoia extreme when aliens start taking over! Better than Body Snatchers by a long shot.

TANK GIRL (Saturday 2am)
Comic book madness comes to life with Lori Petty being admirably kooky and Malcolm McDowell doing his usual bad guy role. Silly rating: 5. Leave your brain at the door!

12:01 (Friday 12pm)
SF version of Groundhog Day, with special appearance by Martin Landau. Something different to get the weekend rolling.



VIRTUOSITY (Friday 9pm)

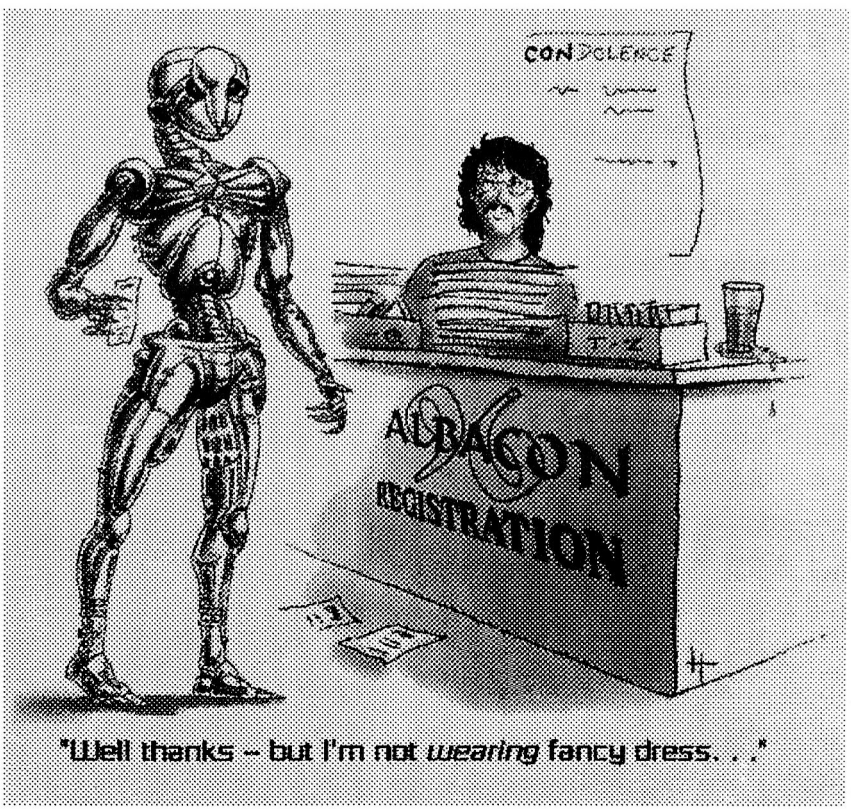
Denzel Washington chases a computer generated psychopath who is running riot in the real world. Original storyline with a superb "screaming" concerto! Violent!

WIZARDS (Friday 2.30pm)

Animated feature film from Ralph Bashki, about good old, wise wizard Vs. Bad brother fascist wizard. This ground braking animation technique was later used for THE LORD OF THE RINGS. Highly recommended.

THE X FILES: ABDUCTION (Monday 2pm)

3 part story link surrounding Duane Barry, who claims to be an alien abductee and the disappearance of Agent Scully. Excellent drama from this superb TV series.



'Humanoid Robot' David A. Hardy
(Courtesy The Encyclopedia of Fantasy & Science Fiction Art Techniques, Titan Books, 1996.)

CONVENTION BARS & LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS

The convention bar is situated in the Court Lounge (Entresol level) and is a designated No Smoking Area. Attendees who do smoke are asked to use the Carradale Lounge once they have purchased their drinks. The Court Lounge is also the assembly point for programme participants, who must be at the assigned area no later than 5 minutes before the beginning of their programme item.

The convention tariff will be in operation in the Court Lounge to convention members only and it is essential that you wear your convention badge visibly or you can be refused service by the bar staff. The convention rates will not be in use at the Ailsa Bar, which is open to the public during the day and is a residents bar after 11pm.

The convention bar will be open at the following times:

FRIDAY - SUNDAY	12.00 - 02.00
MONDAY	12.00 - 18.00

After 6pm on Monday, drinks will be available from the Ailsa Bar only.
If there are any complaints about service, please notify OPS.

The committee has come to an arrangement with the hotel for after hours. Attendees who are residents at the hotel can buy a drink for non-resident attendees after 2am, but must produce their room key/key card before the purchase can be accepted. The committee would appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

BREAKFAST & SNACK MEALS

Breakfast is served in the convention restaurant and attendees staying at the hotel will be issued with vouchers at check in. Please remember to surrender these on arrival or you will be charged for the breakfast! Note: the latest arrival time

for breakfast service at the restaurant is 09.55 (Friday/Monday) or 10.25 (Saturday/Sunday)!

FRIDAY/MONDAY 07.00 - 10.00
SATURDAY only 07.00 - 10.30
SUNDAY only 08.00 - 10.30

A selection of inexpensive meals will be available from the snack bar situated inside the entrance to the Main Programme (Logie Baird Suite - Entresol). In the interests of hygiene, we recommend that where possible you should try and avoid bringing take-away meals from outside. Unfinished meals or their used containers fester in the heat more quickly, giving off smell that will make your enjoyment of the convention unpleasant. The hotel has tried especially hard to provide a range of inexpensive meals, whether you are a carnivore or a herbivore! Opening times are as follows:

FRIDAY/SATURDAY/SUNDAY
12.00 - 14.00
18.00 - 20.00
22.00 - 00.00

MONDAY only
12.00 - 14.00

Although the committee does not encourage attendees to bring in meals from outside, we do suggest you take the opportunity to sample the wide variety of restaurants that the city has to offer. There is something for everyone: even those on a tight budget. Ask a local fan for recommendations!

THE CONVENTION ART SHOW

This year the Art Show is located in the Clydesdale Suite (1st Floor). This area is designated as No Smoking, No Eating or Drinking. Photography is also forbidden in

INTERVENTION

THE 1997 UK NATIONAL SF CONVENTION

From: The_Cyberbirds

To: Fans@large, Fans@conventions, Fans@zines

cc: Fans@bar

Subject: Communication

We're on line to tell you how Intervention will celebrate the most important reason why fans go to cons. No, not beer, palatial hotel bedrooms or the Chairman's dress-sense (although Intervention will have all three). It's you talking to each other about SF & Fantasy, life, the universe and chocolate body paint. So: they'll look at FTL communications, ask if the future of story-telling is in pictures, investigate translation from books to films to comics and what ETs might make of it all. There'll be a Newspeak short story competition and SF drama from master communicator Brian Aldiss. And if that's not enough to talk about, the Great Pork Pie Race will return!

Guests of Honour

Brian **ALDISS**

Jon **BING**

Octavia **BUTLER**

David **LANGFORD**

28-31 March 1997

ADELPHI HOTEL

LIVERPOOL UK

*Attending Membership: £30**
*Supporting: £20**
**Until 30th November 1996*
Memberships close 14th March 1997

Contact: 12 Crowsbury Close, Emsworth, Hants, PO10 7TS, UK

e-mail: intervention@pompey.demon.co.uk

this area unless permission has been given by the artist(s) concerned. The Art Show will be open at the following times:

FRIDAY	12.00 - 18.00
SATURDAY	10.00 - 14.00
	15.30 - 18.00
SUNDAY	10.00 - 13.00
	17.00 - 19.00
MONDAY	Closed

If you wish to buy an item, please consult the bidding sheet but if it marked NFS, the item will not be for sale. The price quoted is the minimum bid which will be accepted and if none have yet been made, you should start at this price, or slightly higher if it has already been nominated. Always put your name & badge number adjacent to your bid and keep a note of all the work you have nominated.

Items which have a bid marked on the form will automatically be included in the Auction and bidding will commence with the highest amount. Other work will be withheld from the Auction unless there is a specific demand for an item. Except on charity items, the convention will receive a 10% commission on all sales.

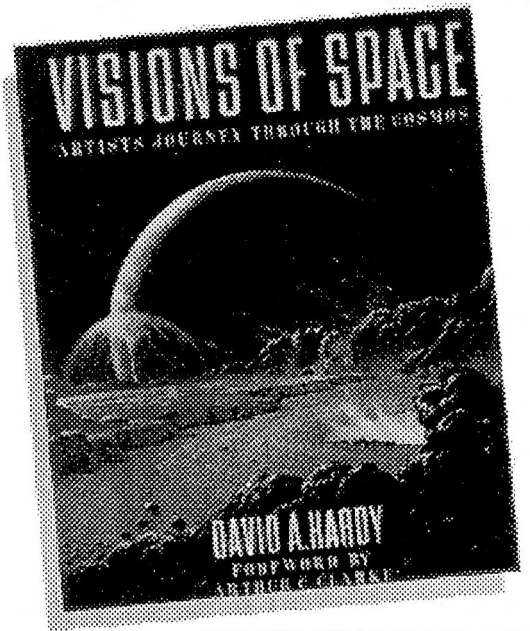
Art work and other auction items can be collected from the Art Show on Monday from 2pm - 3pm. Payments for items bought at the auction can be made by cash or cheque only. Artists who have sold work at the auction will receive payment by cheque after the buyer has paid for the item(s) and no later than 1 week after the convention.

THE ART & BOOK AUCTION

This will take place in the Main Programme (Logie Baird Suite - Entresol) on Sunday from 2pm. As well as works from the Art Show, there will be a range of books including the copy of ORPHEUS: MYTHS OF THE WORKD, used for the production of an RNIB Talking Book, which was sponsored by ALBACON 94, memorabilia and

'THIS WORK CAN HARDLY BE FAULTED AS AN AID TO SCIENTIFIC IMAGINATION.'

Daily Telegraph



A lavishly illustrated book, in which David A. Hardy traces the history of Space Art, examines its development in conjunction with new technology, presents the work of celebrated artists and gives a fascinating insight into their development and techniques.

£10.95
(limpback)
ISBN:
1 85028 136 X

PAPER TIGER, *imprint of* DRAGON'S WORLD
7 ST GEORGE'S SQUARE, LONDON SW1V 2HX *tel:* 0171 630 9969 *fax:* 0171 630 9921

other collectables. Some of these items have been donated by local traders, SF groups and publishers. The convention will receive a 10% commission on all sales excluding charity items.

Please see the instructions given above regarding the collection of items bought at the auction.

DEALERS ROOM

The Dealers Room is situated in the Kintyre Suite (Entresol - adjacent to the Convention Bar) and this is a designated No Smoking, No Food or Drink area. Attendees who damage stock on display could face a charge, subject to the Dealer's discretion & judgement. Convention badges must be visibly to Security & Gopher personnel, who are authorised to refuse entry. They may also retain large bags or

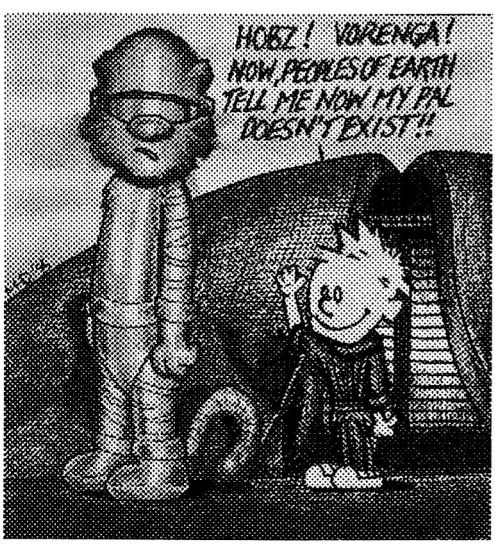
hold-alls for the duration of your visit to the Dealers Room. The opening times are as follows:

FRIDAY	12.00 - 18.00
SATURDAY	10.00 - 14.00
	15.30 - 18.00
SUNDAY	10.00 - 13.00
	14.30 - 18.00
MONDAY	10.00 - 16.00

PLEASE NOTE: the closing time for the Dealers Room on Monday afternoon will depend upon the dealers, what their travel arrangements are and how much time they will require for packing.

SECURITY MEASURES DURING THE CONVENTION

Although thefts at Glasgow conventions are a rarity, the committee would like to advise all members to take extra care with their property. Handbags, cameras & other personal belongings should not be left unattended. Neither the hotel nor the convention committee can be held accountable for items lost or stolen.



Convention badges must be worn at all times in all convention areas and should be worn where they can be clearly seen.

Convention Staff & Security personnel reserve the right to challenge anyone who is present in a convention area without visible identification of being a member. Non-compliance with the Badge Policy could result in a charity fine and anyone

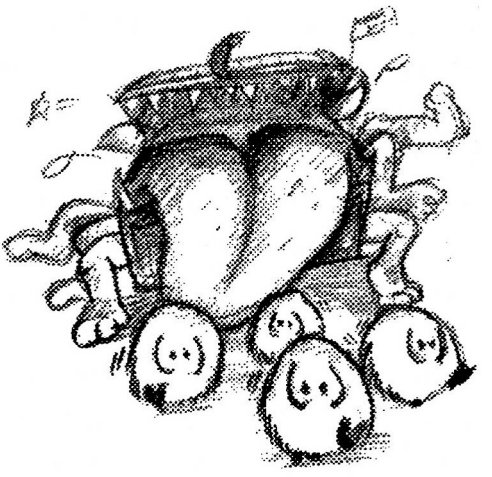
attempting to gain entry to convention areas without proper identification will be refused. Bar Staff can also refuse to serve anyone in the con bar who is not wearing a badge.

Lost badges should be reported to REGISTRATION (during opening times) or OPS (after 6pm) immediately, in case they have been handed in. Replacements will be charged at £2, which is refundable if the original badge is found and surrendered. Recurrent loss of your badge will be notified to Security.

All members are asked to be vigilant. If you see anyone acting suspiciously, please inform a member of Convention Security or contact OPS immediately.

WEAPONS POLICY

The Weapons Policy will be enforced in all areas of the hotel, particularly public areas such as reception, the Entresol corridor, stairwells and lifts. Weapons must be registered on arrival and a permit will be issued for the duration of the convention. Convention Staff & Security Personnel reserve the right to ask for your permit at any time. The policy will be waived for Masquerade Competitors who require to use their weapon(s) during their presentation but a permit is still required!



Permits will cost £1 for the first registered weapon and 50p for subsequent weapons to the maximum of £5. A fining system for breaches of the policy, at 50p per offence, will be imposed at the discretion of Security Personnel. All money raised from the Weapon Permit system will be donated to the convention charities.

BLADED WEAPONS must be sheathed and peace bonded at all times.
REPLICA WEAPONS & WATER PISTOLS may not be loaded at any time.
NO WEAPON should be pointed, waved about in any area of the hotel or worn in public streets.
ALL WEAPONS must be registered with Security and Permits should be carried at all times when the registered weapon is in use or being worn.

The Policy is simple and will be strictly enforced. Security have authorisation to stop anyone they suspect of carrying an unregistered weapon and can fine you immediately. Their decision is final and will be fully supported by the convention committee.

Any member who blatantly ignores this policy or fails to produce a Weapon Permit will face heavy fining. Persistent offenders will be discharged from the convention.

DISABLED ACCESS SERVICE

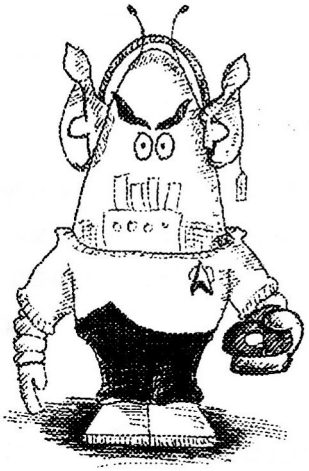
The ELECTRICAL EGGS (UK)™ Disabled Access Service is being implemented at ALBACON 96. Seating areas will be designated for Access users only and are signposted. Anyone wearing the Access Button (and the Helper Button) is entitled to use these seats and convention members are asked to keep these seats clear. One of the hotel lifts will be designated for Access Users, giving them priority usage during peak times. The Access Button will allow the wearer to gain first entry into a programme area and go to the top of any queues.

There is also a Medical Alert Service in operation for first aid purposes. If you have a medical condition, taking medication or have any allergies, it is recommended that you should register immediately. This information will be kept confidential and only Cuddles will have access to the details. In the event of an emergency, Cuddles will only make this information to the person giving first aid, if it is requested, medical staff or paramedics.

TAKING THE MASK OFF COSTUMING

The Masquerade is always one of the highlights of ALBACON and Cuddles will be Mistress of Ceremonies for the event, which is on Saturday night.

Proficient sewing machine skills and a knowledge of dress making are not always essential to be a winning contestant. In 1988, one of the winners entered as a giant Mars bar which was basically a black bin bag, gold & red paint and a obviously took a lot of patience! Entrants who have asked a family member or friend to help them construct their costume will not be penalised but Cuddles would hope that any credit will be noted! There are some basic rules which always apply to the Masquerade:



Costumes which have been hired or professionally made, cannot be worn.

Any weaponry displayed or used during the presentation must have been checked & registered with Security before the competition.

Flash photography will not be permitted during the competition for health & safety reasons and this will be enforced by Security, who have permission to confiscate equipment until the end of the event. There will an opportunity for photographs once the main portion of the competition is over.

Inspiration comes from the muses! Costumes can be reproductions, such as those based on outfits in popular TV shows or movies; costumes can be inspired by a comic, a book or a picture; costumes can be inspired by a game or they can be totally original.

Originality, creativity and presentation will be the three main factors which the

judges will take into consideration to select a winner. Prizes will be awarded at the closing ceremony on Monday afternoon and Certificates will be made for all participants, which will be posted out after the convention.

Good luck to everyone taking part!

THE GALACTIC SAUCERY

In a pique of madness, Cuddles came up with the idea of ALBACON holding its very own Lottery, since it would fit into the gap between the masquerade and the ceilidh, just about the same time as the one on the telly. Whilst the other lottery does it all for lots of money, ALBACON is doing this on a shoe-string budget and with tongue firmly in cheek! The tickets use numbers from SF/Fantasy sources - books, films, comics, TV shows etc., and it only costs 10p to take part. All the money raised during the Galactic Saucery will be donated to our charities.

Peter Morwood will be your host and be warned now: he has been given free reign over the script! ALBACON also hopes to have Psychic Senga on hand to make some predictions before the numbers are drawn. ALBACON would like to reassure everyone that there will be no big fireworks, no band or celebrity guest and no screaming hordes in the audience! Whew!

There is also a competition running in conjunction with the Galactic Saucery. The person who can correctly guess what all the number references are from, or the person with the most correct answers, will win a special prize. There is no fee to take part in this part of the competition and entries should be posted in the box at OPS before 6pm on Sunday. The winner will be announced at the Closing Ceremony on Monday afternoon.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF AN OLD FRIEND

Bob Shaw was always a great supporter of Glasgow conventions and was amongst the first SF authors to be invited as a Guest of Honour 'up here'! Bob gave so much to fandom, not just through his writing and his infamous "Scientific Talks" were the high points of many conventions. I still haven't really recovered from his death earlier this year and although I have not had the opportunity to go to many cons recently, I know they will never be the same without him. A LOAD OF OLD BoSH is a collection of Bob's "scientific talks" and the book is wonderfully illustrated by fan artist Jim Barker. Reading it for the first time last month, it cheered me up at a time when I was recovering from an operation. Unfortunately, it made me laugh so much I almost had a hernia!

Jim Barker was kind enough to do this cartoon for me, which is not just my tribute to Bob Shaw but ALBACON's. He was a remarkable man and it is sad that so many new fans will miss the opportunity to meet him for themselves.

TO BOB, WITH LOVE. Cuddles$_x$

AND FINALLY...

Neil McChrystal is the creator of our mascots, Rabbie the Robot & Zippo the Dragon, who have featured on the covers of our progress reports and in glorious colour on this programme book. Neil also drew most of the cartoons in this publication including the guest's logos which have been used as their membership badges. The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Neil for his time and effort, especially as he has been studying for his Honours Degree in Information Systems, and at the time of going to press, we heard he had passed with flying colours - so to speak!

Martyn Delaney has a wicked sense of humour, which is evident in the Calvin & Hobbes cartoons that are printed in this programme book. He also designed the "luggage" logo used for the membership badges. Thanks very much Martyn!

[*The original artwork of both contributing fan artists will be displayed in the Art Show and auctioned on Sunday afternoon.*]

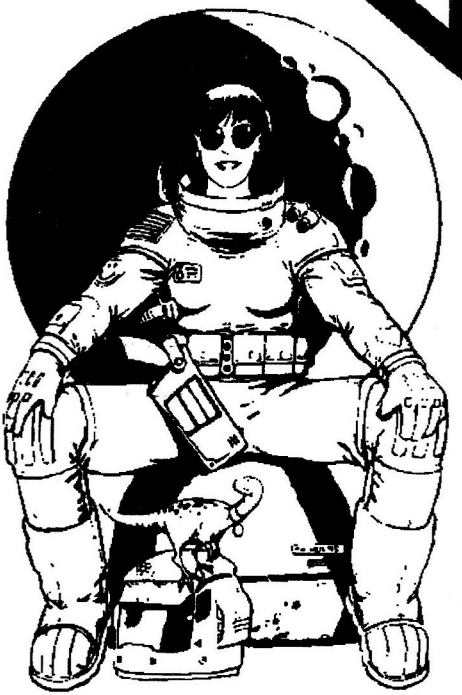
Grant McDougall was asked to step in at very short notice to help put together this programme book. There is no way Cuddles could have done this on her own and is extremely grateful for all his help. The rest of the committee are pretty pleased too. Cheers!

Cuddles would like to thank Ian Cairns for his help in producing the special badges for Tech Ops, Security and Gopher personnel, which are based on BABYLON 5 passes.

There are several other people who deserve recognition for their help & support - apologies if I forget anyone:

A1 Books & Comics; Dave Langford; Bob Sneddon; Alistair DeScartes; ASTRA; Vince Docherty & Oliver and Jackie Gruter-Andrew for providing address labels for Scottish INTERSECTION attendees; DELANEY'S CHILDREN; Amanda at DRAGONWORLD/PAPER TIGER; Kate at RANDOM HOUSE/LEGEND PUBLICATIONS; Jemima of the Arvon Foundation; Fraser McCulloch for the use of the PC; Scott Taylor and all the staff of The Central Hotel; David Lally, Colin Dalgleish, Martin Fairgreave and George Houston for their contribution to the video programme's; Roddy McDonald who did all the driving; the Glasgow College of Building & Printing for providing display boards; John Wilkes, the manager of PHACE west who let Cuddles use the office computers to do ALBACON stuff; Kim Knight & Susie Millar for helping with arrangements for David Gerrold; the committee of DISCWORLD con for their support; all the programme participants for their eagerness and their remarkable sense of fun, which really makes a difference; Duncan Brooker at the Gay & Lesbian Centre, Glasgow and most important of all - YOU!

A-1
books & comics



FOR IMPORT COMICS, TOYS, CARDS, COLLECTABLES, ETC.

31-35 PARNIE ST • GLASGOW G1 5RS
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